

✓ <sup>24</sup>/<sub>25</sub>. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 80% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

✓ <sup>25</sup>/<sub>26</sub>. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 90% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

✓ <sup>26</sup>/<sub>27</sub>. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

= <sup>27</sup>/<sub>28</sub>. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1. #1 vs DNA

✓ <sup>28</sup>/<sub>29</sub>. (New) An isolated polynucleotide having an 80% identity to the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1.

= <sup>29</sup>/<sub>30</sub>. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides encoding a protein with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4. #4 vs DNA

⊙ <sup>30</sup>/<sub>31</sub>. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising nucleotides encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

✓ <sup>31</sup>/<sub>32</sub>. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 30, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 80% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

Rule 26 ✓ <sup>33</sup>33. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 30, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 90% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

✓ <sup>33</sup>34. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 30, wherein said amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to that of SEQ ID NO:2.

= <sup>34</sup>35. (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

#3 vs DNA

✓ <sup>35</sup>36. (New) (New) An isolated polynucleotide having an 80% identity to the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:3.

✓ <sup>36</sup>37. (New) A vector comprising a sequence identical to that of the isolated polynucleotide of any one of claims 23-40.

✓ <sup>37</sup>38. (New) A bacterium transformed with the vector of claim 37.

= ~~38~~ <sup>38</sup>39. (New) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 23, wherein said polynucleotide codes for component H of the phosphotransferase system.

= ~~39~~ <sup>39</sup>40. (New) An isolated polynucleotide according to claim 30, wherein said polynucleotide codes for component H of the phosphotransferase system.

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